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wherein A¹ and A² are independently of each other a saturated, unsaturated or aromatic 5-6 membered cyclic ring system containing one or more carbon atoms and optionally from one to four heteroatoms selected from N, O or S, which is optionally substituted with one or more halogen, perhalomethyl, hydroxy, nitro, cyano, formyl, or C₁₋₁₂-alkyl, (C₃₋₆-cycloalkyl)C₁₋₆-alkyl, C₄₋₁₂-alkenynyl, C₂₋₁₂-alkenyl, C₂₋₁₂-alkynyl, C₁₋₁₂-alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, arylalkyl, arylalkoxy, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, heteroarylalkoxy, acyl, acyloxy, hydroxyC₁₋₁₂-alkyl, amino, acylamino, C₁₋₁₂-alkyl-amino, C₁₋₆-dialkylamino, arylamino, arylalkylamino, aminoC₁₋₁₂-alkyl, C₁₋₁₂-alkoxycarbonyl, alkylaminocarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, arylalkoxycarbonyl, C₁₋₁₂-alkoxyC₁₋₁₂-alkyl, aryloxyC₁₋₁₂-alkyl, arylalkoxyC₁₋₁₂-alkyl, arylthio, C₁₋₁₂-alkylthio, thioC₁₋₁₂-alkyl, C₁₋₁₂-alkoxycarbonylamino, aryloxycarbonylamino, arylalkoxycarbonylamino, -COR¹, or -SO₂R², wherein R¹ and R² independently of each other are selected from hydroxy, halogen, perhalomethyl, C₁₋₆-alkoxy or amino optionally substituted with one or more C₁₋₆-alkyl, perhalomethyl or aryl; optionally substituted with one or more halogen, perhalomethyl, hydroxy, nitro or cyano;

Z is C or CR³, wherein R³ is hydrogen, halogen, perhalomethyl, C₁₋₁₂-alkyl, C₄₋₁₂-alkenynyl, C₂₋₁₂-alkenyl, C₂₋₁₂-alkynyl, C₁₋₁₂-alkoxy, aryloxy, arylalkoxy, heteroaryloxy, heteroarylalkoxy, acyl, acyloxy, hydroxyC₁₋₁₂-alkyl, C₁₋₁₂-alkoxyC₁₋₁₂-alkyl, aryloxyC₁₋₁₂-alkyl, arylalkoxyC₁₋₁₂-alkyl, thioC₁₋₁₂-alkyl, -COR⁴, or -SO₂R¹¹, wherein R⁴ and R¹¹ independently of each other are selected from hydroxy, halogen, perhalomethyl, C₁₋₆-alkoxy or amino optionally substituted with one or more C₁₋₆-alkyl, perhalomethyl or aryl optionally substituted with one or more halogen, perhalomethyl, hydroxy, nitro or cyano;

Q is O or S;

----- represents a single bond or a double bond;

Ar is arylene or heteroarylene;

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R⁵ is hydrogen;

R⁶ is hydrogen;

M is OR⁷, where R⁷ is hydrogen, C₁₋₁₂-alkyl, C₄₋₁₂-alkenynyl, C₂₋₁₂-alkenyl, C₂₋₁₂-alkynyl, aryl, arylalkyl, C₁₋₁₂-alkoxyC₁₋₁₂-alkyl, C₁₋₁₂-alkoxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, C₁₋₁₂-alkylaminocarbonyl, arylaminocarbonyl, acyl, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl or heteroarylalkyl groups optionally substituted with one or more halogen, perhalomethyl, hydroxy, nitro or cyano or M is COYR⁸;

R⁸ is hydrogen, C₁₋₁₂-alkyl, C₄₋₁₂-alkenynyl, C₂₋₁₂-alkenyl, C₂₋₁₂-alkynyl;

Y is oxygen;

k is an integer from 1 to 2, n and m are 1;

wherein heterocyclyl is a saturated or unsaturated nonaromatic group having 5 or 6 ring atoms containing one to four carbon atoms and one to four heteroatoms selected from N, O or S;

heteroaryl is a 5 to 6 membered monocyclic or a 9 to 10 membered bicyclic aromatic system containing one or more heteroatoms selected from N, O or S;

heteroarylalkyl is a straight or branched C₁₋₆ alkyl group further substituted with a heteroaryl group;

heteroaryloxy is a heteroaryl group linked to an oxygen atom;

heteroarylalkoxy is a heteroarylalkyl group linked to an oxygen atom;

arylene is a divalent aromatic ring; and

heteroarylene is a divalent heteroaryl group;

or a salt thereof with a pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base, or any optical isomer or mixture of optical isomers, or any tautomeric forms.

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2. (Amended Twice) The compound of claim 1, wherein A¹ and A² are independently of each other a saturated, unsaturated or aromatic 5-6 membered cyclic ring system containing one or more carbon atoms and optionally from one to four heteroatoms selected from N, O or S, which is optionally substituted with one or more halogen, perhalomethyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₆-alkyl, (C₃₋₆-cycloalkyl)C₁₋₆-alkyl, C₄₋₆-alkenynyl, C₂₋₆-alkenyl, C₂₋₆-alkynyl, C₁₋₆-alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, arylalkyl, arylalkoxy, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, heteroarylalkoxy, acyl, hydroxyC₁₋₆-alkyl, C₁₋₆-alkyl-amino, C₁₋₆-dialkylamino, arylamino, arylalkylamino, aminoC₁₋₆-alkyl, C₁₋₆-alkoxy-carbonyl, alkylaminocarbonyl, aryloxy-carbonyl, arylalkoxy-carbonyl, C₁₋₆-alkoxyC₁₋₆-alkyl, aryloxyC₁₋₆-alkyl, or arylalkoxyC₁₋₆-alkyl.

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3. (Amended Twice) The compound of claim 1, wherein A¹ and A² are independently of each other a saturated, unsaturated or aromatic 5-6 membered cyclic ring system containing one or more carbon atoms and optionally from one to four heteroatoms selected from N, O or S, which is optionally substituted with one or more halogen, perhalomethyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₆-alkyl, (C₃₋₆-cycloalkyl)C₁₋₆-alkyl, C₄₋₆-alkenynyl, C₂₋₆-alkenyl, C₂₋₆-alkynyl, C₁₋₆-alkoxy, aryl, aryloxy, arylalkyl, arylalkoxy, heterocyclyl, heteroaryl, heteroarylalkyl, heteroaryloxy, heteroarylalkoxy, acyl, hydroxyC₁₋₆-alkyl, C₁₋₆-alkyl-amino, C₁₋₆-dialkylamino, arylamino, arylalkylamino, aminoC₁₋₆-alkyl, C₁₋₆-alkoxyC₁₋₆-alkyl, aryloxyC₁₋₆-alkyl, or arylalkoxyC₁₋₆-alkyl.

4. (Amended Twice) The compound of claim 1, wherein A¹ and A² are independently of each other are a saturated, unsaturated or aromatic 5-6 membered cyclic ring system containing one or more carbon atoms and optionally from one to four heteroatoms selected from N, O or S, which is optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C₁₋₆-alkyl, C₁₋₆-alkoxy or aryl.

5. (Amended Twice) The compound of claim 1, wherein A¹ and A² are independently of each other a saturated, unsaturated or aromatic 5-6 membered cyclic ring system containing one or

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more carbon atoms and optionally from one to four heteroatoms selected from N, O or S, which is optionally substituted with one or more halogen, C₁₋₆-alkyl, C₁₋₆-alkoxy, or aryl.

Please add the following new claims:

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48. (New) The compound of claim 1, wherein A¹ and A² are independently of each other a saturated, unsaturated or aromatic 5-6 membered cyclic ring system containing one or more carbon atoms and optionally from one to four heteroatoms selected from N, O or S, selected from cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, phenyl, cyclohexenyl, pyrrolinyl, imidazolidinyl, pyrazolinyl, piperidyl, piperazinyl, pyrrolyl, 2H-pyrrolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, triazolyl, pyridyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl, morpholinyl, thiomorpholinyl, isothiazolyl, isoxazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, 1,3-dioxolanyl, 1,4-dioxolanyl, thiophenyl, furanyl, oxazolyl, thiazolyl, purinyl, pyridinyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, phenanthridinyl, cyclohepta[b]pyridinyl, cinnolinyl, phthalazinyl, pyrimidinyl, quinazolinyl, morpholinyl, or 1,3,5-triazinyl.

49. (New) The compound of claim 1, wherein heterocyclyl is selected from pyrrolidinyl, pyrrolinyl, pyrazolinyl, pyrazolidinyl, 1,2-oxathiolanyl, imidazolidinyl, imidazolyl, 4-oxazolonyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, piperidineyl, or piperazinylinyl.

50. (New) The compound of claim 1, wherein heteroaryl is selected from furanyl, thiophenyl, pyrrolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, triazolyl, pyridinyl, pyrazinyl, isothiazolyl, isoxazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, quinolinyl, isoquinolinyl, quinazolinyl, quinoxalinyl, indolyl, benzimidazolyl, benzofuranyl, pteridinyl, or purinyl.

51. (New) The compound of claim 38 which is
(2S)-3-[4-(3,3-Bis-biphenyl-4-yl-allyloxy)-phenyl]-2-ethoxy-propionic acid ethyl ester, or
(2S)-3-[4-(3,3-Bis-biphenyl-4-yl-allyloxy)-phenyl]-2-ethoxy-propionic acid,
or a salt thereof with a pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base, or any optical isomer or mixture of optical isomers, or any tautomeric forms.

52. (New) The compound of claim 38 which is

(2S)-3-{4-[3,3-Bis-(4-bromophenyl)-allyloxy]-phenyl}-2-ethoxy-propionic acid ethyl ester, or

(2S)-3-{4-[3,3-Bis-(4-bromophenyl)-allyloxy]-phenyl}-2-ethoxy-propionic acid,

or a salt thereof with a pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base, or any optical isomer or mixture of optical isomers, or any tautomeric forms.

53. (New) The compound of claim 38 which is

(2S)-3-{4-[3,3-Bis-(4-furan-2-yl-phenyl)-allyloxy]-phenyl}-2-ethoxy-propionic acid ethyl ester,

or

(2S)-3-{4-[3,3-Bis-(4-furan-2-yl-phenyl)-allyloxy]-phenyl}-2-ethoxy-propionic acid,

or a salt thereof with a pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base, or any optical isomer or mixture of optical isomers, or any tautomeric forms.
